



General Assembly

January Session, 2005

Raised Bill No. 6678

LCO No. 2924

02924_____ED_

Referred to Committee on Education

Introduced by:
(ED)

***AN ACT CONCERNING CERTIFICATION REQUIREMENTS FOR
BILINGUAL EDUCATORS.***

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 10-145h of the general statutes is repealed and the
2 following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective July 1, 2005*):

3 (a) On and after July 1, 1999, the State Board of Education shall
4 require an applicant for certification as a bilingual education teacher to
5 demonstrate competency in English and the other language of
6 instruction as a condition of certification. Competency in English shall
7 be demonstrated by successful passage of the essential skills test
8 approved by the State Board of Education. Competency in the other
9 language shall be demonstrated on an examination, if available, of
10 comparable difficulty as specified by the Department of Education. If
11 such an examination is not available, competency shall be
12 demonstrated by an appropriate alternative method as specified by the
13 department.

14 (b) On and after July 1, [2003] 2005, the State Board of Education
15 shall require persons seeking to become (1) elementary level bilingual

16 education teachers to be certified in [elementary education and]
17 bilingual education and achieve a satisfactory evaluation on the
18 appropriate State Board of Education approved assessment for
19 elementary education, and (2) secondary level bilingual education
20 teachers to be certified in [both the subject area they will teach and in
21 bilingual education. Such dual certification requirement may be met by
22 earning a bachelor's degree in one field and meeting the requirements
23 for an endorsement in the other field] bilingual education and achieve
24 a satisfactory evaluation on the appropriate State Board of Education
25 approved subject area assessment. Such certificates shall be valid for
26 subject-specific bilingual education. Certification in elementary
27 bilingual education shall be valid for grades kindergarten to eight,
28 inclusive, and certification in secondary subject-specific bilingual
29 education shall be valid for grades seven to twelve, inclusive.

30 (c) On and after July 1, [2000] 2005, the State Board of Education
31 shall require bilingual education teachers holding provisional educator
32 certificates to meet the requirements of this subsection in order to
33 qualify for a professional educator certificate to teach bilingual
34 education. (1) Such bilingual education teachers who teach on the
35 elementary level shall take fifteen credit hours in bilingual education
36 and, for those who do not hold an endorsement in elementary
37 education, fifteen credit hours in elementary language arts, reading
38 and mathematics. (2) Such bilingual education teachers who teach on
39 the [middle or] secondary level shall take fifteen credit hours in
40 bilingual education and, for those who do not hold the endorsement
41 for the subject area they teach, fifteen credit hours in the subject matter
42 that they teach. Such professional educator certificate shall be valid for
43 bilingual education and the grade level and [content] subject area of
44 preparation.

45 (d) On and after July 1, 2005, the State Board of Education shall
46 require bilingual education teachers who hold provisional educator
47 certificates for subject-specific bilingual education and who do not
48 hold the endorsement in the subject area they are teaching to meet the

49 requirements of this subsection in order to qualify for a professional
50 educator certificate to teach bilingual education. (1) Elementary
51 bilingual education teachers shall complete the course work
52 requirements necessary for an endorsement in elementary education.
53 (2) Secondary bilingual teachers shall complete the course work
54 requirements necessary for an endorsement in the subject area they
55 teach within the bilingual program.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:		
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Section 1	<i>July 1, 2005</i>	10-145h
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Statement of Purpose:

To amend the requirements to become certified to teach bilingual education by requiring the educator to be certified in bilingual education and to have successfully completed the PRAXIS II assessment for elementary education in order to teach in grades kindergarten through eight, inclusive, and to be certified in bilingual education and to have successfully completed the PRAXIS II assessment for the specific academic subject to be taught in order to teach at the secondary level.

[Proposed deletions are enclosed in brackets. Proposed additions are indicated by underline, except that when the entire text of a bill or resolution or a section of a bill or resolution is new, it is not underlined.]